

THOUSANDS DYING OF HUNGER, BABIES ARE THROWN IN RIVER; GIRLS ARE SOLD FOR \$1 EACH

PEKING, China, Dec. 25.—The area and extent of the famine situation in China has recently been brought out in a number of reports reaching here. The region chiefly affected extends east and west from the Gulf of Choo to Hon-ching in Shensi and north and south from Mongolia to Sheng-ching in Houan.

Forty-two years ago China was swept by a memorable famine in which millions of persons perished from cold and hunger. In 1878, however, conditions were less serious than at present for at that time a wheat crop preceded the drought whereas today, due to two years' lack of rainfall, only limited areas have produced even the scantiest yields.

The reports have told how the trees of entire districts have been stripped of leaves for use as food. The starving people mix them with millet chaff, clover or weeds, with a minimum of grain and bake them into cakes which resemble clay.

Thousands Of Refugees.—Thousands of refugees who are endeavoring to migrate from the famine areas are said to be living on such "food" hoping to reach the more fortunate cities and towns where they may possibly purchase necessities of life.

Extraordinary means to obtain money for food are reported from all parts of the famine area. Little children are found deserted in the streets and many have been rescued from the rivers into which they have been cast by their impoverished parents.

The sale of children is often reported, much of the children being offered for sums as low as a dollar. A boy of five years, whose mother had died, and whose father was ill, was rescued from the father who declared if he could not feed him he intended to "throw him into the river." There have been suicides of entire families.

Death Rate Appalling.—Reports from famine points in the famine area which it is estimated will require \$200,000,000 worth of the plainest food to avert the greatest loss of life, have been received as follows:

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An Old World Scene



Some 2000 persons attended the midnight mass at St. Ignace's church Christmas eve. The main feature of the decoration was the birth scene of Jesus Christ. The model group shown above is a masterpiece of patience and industry. It represents the place and surroundings of Bethlehem; dark blue scenery forms the background, and then in relief, on the east side, a small village on the slope of a hill and lighted by candlelight. The stable, the manger, the infant Jesus, Mary, Joseph, and some shepherds in the act of adoration, are all there. The scene is lit with a skillful disposition of lights, and the effect is surprising. A moving star goes from one side of the sky to that on the roof of the stable.

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THE POPULAR

Cor. Main Ave. and San Antonio St. Private Branch Exchange 2200. Mail and Phone Orders Promptly Filled.

The Inventory Sale

Predictions Come True
WE predicted in our opening announcement of this Pre-Inventory Sale that this event would surpass any Pre-Inventory Sale in the history of The Popular.

Our prediction came true with the opening of the store Monday morning. Throngs of enthusiastic buyers crowded the various departments because they realized that prices had reached a level which would not be lower. All prices previously advertised continue, where stocks have not become exhausted.

CHARGE PURCHASES GO ON JAN. ACCOUNT.

Items For Men

Overcoats At \$9.50 **Trousers At \$5.50**
This is an odd lot of overcoats, well made of substantial materials in a wide range of styles. It has been a long time since you have been able to buy an overcoat at this nominal price. As long as they last you have choice.

Suits At \$16.50
Just 60 suits in sizes 38 to 44 have been grouped for quick clearance. If you wear the above sizes or anything in between, come and secure an unusual value at \$16.50.

Special Note—These on display in center case San Antonio St. entrance.

One-Fourth Off
A Pre-Inventory reduction of one-fourth off is offered on our entire stock of—

MACKINAW COATS
SHEEP LINED COATS
RUBBERETTE COATS

At the attractive price of 1-4 off.

SUITS AND OVERCOATS 35 TO 40 PERCENT OFF

Men's Clothing Dept.—Largest in the Southwest—2nd Floor.

Men's Footwear

OUR entire stock of men's shoes show Pre-Inventory reductions. Prices have come down on such celebrated makes as Stacy-Adams, Ralston, Packards, C. B. Slater and other equally dependable makes. There is a full range of choice in the season's best styles, leathers and lasts. The following are the Pre-Inventory reductions:

All \$21.50 Shoes now at \$16.00 **\$12.00 to \$12.50 Shoes at \$9.00**

\$18.00 to \$19.50 Shoes at \$14.50 **\$10.00 to \$11.00 Shoes at \$7.95**

\$15.00 to \$16.00 Shoes at \$12.50 **\$7.50 to \$8.50 Shoes at \$5.95**

Extra Special Shoes \$5.00

We know it is rather hard to believe that a man can buy a pair of stylish, serviceable shoes at this price, however, such is the case. These are brown kid blucher styles with Goodyear welt soles and come in a narrow, medium and wide toe. There is full range of sizes to select from. They are offered at the low Pre-Inventory price of \$5.00.

Buyers are included in our Pre-Inventory Sale.

Trunks and Bags Are Offered at a Pre-Inventory Reduction of 20 Per Cent Off.

On Trying To Forget.

BY BEATRICE PAIRFAX

MARGOT has just weathered a series of storms which are almost all of the cyclone variety. Money, love and health have been wrung from her within a year.

Writings and sorrow came to fill her life so full that she had no time to think of anything but the struggle for existence. But that was only for the time being. Eventually Margot recovered her brain and with it her sanity is restored.

She learned that peddlers selling novelties take station on the sidewalks and corners and must keep moving to avoid sidewalk congestion. The orders issued by chief of police Peyton Edwards.

With the exception of one or two cases which investigation proved to be worthy, peddlers will not be permitted to sell on San Antonio or other up-town business streets.

Peddlers Are Banned From Uptown Streets

Attendant peddlers must see south of San Antonio street and must keep moving to avoid sidewalk congestion. The orders issued by chief of police Peyton Edwards.

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